

SBS NEWS

In Brief

I-MANAGE Standard Budget System

November 6, 2007

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SBS Spotlight

NNSA Sponsors SBS

The SBS Team is pleased to announce a new SBS Corporate Sponsor, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA).

NNSA, in addition to providing financial support, has expertise in all levels of budget and performance management from which the SBS project can benefit.

The NNSA budget staff have already begun working with the SBS Team on Work Authorization requirements and process. They also participated extensively during recent system evaluation activities as part of the Acquisition Phase.

A special thanks to Kate Foley and the NNSA Management for valuing the goals of SBS and advocating on our behalf. The SBS Team looks forward to continuing to work with the NNSA organization as we move toward the goal of a successful implementation of SBS.

The SBS Vision: Interview with Kate Foley

The SBS Team sees many ways that SBS can benefit DOE, but we wondered how our users envision SBS. We asked Kate Foley if she could describe the NNSA vision for DOE budgeting with SBS.

What is the NNSA vision for SBS?

"NNSA believes the I-MANAGE Program, including SBS, is essential for the future, especially as staff retirements increase and many years of experience are lost. We need more capable, connected systems to capture efficiencies, and we would rather invest in DOE integrated systems than in improving the kinds of small, discrete legacy systems that are in use now.

We see SBS as a core corporate system to which all of the programs could link their program management and resource systems. If we do it right, there should be efficiency through commonality. SBS will not seek to replace all program systems – rather, it would allow DOE programs to "link up", maintain separate "space", and still provide more consistent data to OMB and others.

Another advantage of a good corporate system is sharing lessons learned. NNSA's Planning, Programming, Budgeting and Evaluation (PPBE) processes encompass a five-year budgeting window supported by multi-year performance metrics. We hope that SBS will help NNSA continue to improve and automate PPBE processes, while enabling other DOE programs to benefit from our lessons learned in multi-year resource management."

What big challenges can SBS help solve?

"SBS can make it easier to manage funds distribution, including automating the DOE Work Authorization process, which is essential for budget and program execution. The current FDS system is very old and held together by a small group of talented people who really need a new system. Instead of juggling manual and semi-manual systems as we do today, we hope that through integration with STARS, SBS will make funds distribution seamless."

Acquisition Phase Nearing Close

The SBS Team is currently wrapping up the Acquisition Phase. We have completed all system evaluation activities with assistance from:

- Office of Budget
- PA&E
- EERE
- EM
- NE
- NNSA
- Science
- BEARS
- AHE
- IDW
- I-MANAGE

Thanks to all the volunteers for their time and effort. We plan to announce final selection results later this month. Please stay tuned!